

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

09-0022R

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE DULUTH AIRPORT AUTHORITY'S  
REQUEST FOR REPAYMENT OF \$15,000,000 INTO THE STATE  
AIRPORTS FUND FROM THE GENERAL FUND IN FISCAL YEAR (FY)  
2009.

BY COUNCILOR FEDORA:

RECITALS:

The Duluth airport authority (DAA) was created by the Minnesota State Legislature on May 22, 1969. The power vested in the authority is referenced in Minnesota Statutes, 1969, Chapter 577; and

The 1945 Minnesota Legislature and governor created the state airports fund to be used to acquire, construct, improve, maintain, and operate airports and other air navigation facilities and to assist municipalities in the acquisition, construction, improvement and maintenance of airports and other air navigation facilities; and

Since the fund was created in 1945, all revenues in the state airports fund have been generated by users of the state aviation system. The revenues consist of airline flight property taxes, aviation fuel tax and aircraft registration tax, and interest on investment of these revenues; and

The 2008 Minnesota Legislature and governor removed \$15,000,000 from the state airports fund to be used for purposes other than those for which the fund was created and maintained; and

The removal of \$15,000,000 from the state airports fund has resulted in the elimination of Fiscal Year 2009 state-aid to airports for capital improvements, thereby causing undue hardships to publicly owned airports and the cities, counties and general public they serve throughout Minnesota; and

The DAA at its November 18, 2008, meeting adopted a resolution requesting that the Minnesota State Legislature and the governor of Minnesota restore a portion of the \$15,000,000 to the state airports fund from the general fund in fiscal year (FY) 2009 and appropriate those funds to the Minnesota department of transportation for airport development and assistance, that the

balance of the \$15,000,000 be transferred to the state airports fund on July 1, 2009, and that the same amount be appropriated to the Minnesota department of transportation for airport development and assistance over and above the fiscal year base level appropriation of \$14,298,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Duluth City Council supports the request of the DAA as set forth in its November 18, 2008, resolution regarding repayment of \$15,000,000 into the state airports fund from the general fund in fiscal year (FY) 2009.

Approved as to form:

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Attorney

COUNCIL REQUEST/ATTY JMC:blj 12/18/2008

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This resolution shows the council's support for DAA's request for repayment of \$15,000,000 into the state airports fund.